THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy of the Government is to appoint through a fair and objective selection procedure outstanding professional managers to level I and level II posts and posts at any other level as may be decided by the Govt. from time to time. Govt. have also recognised the need to develop a cadre of professional managers within the public sector. Hence, unless markedly better candidates are available from outside, internal candidates employed in the public sector enterprise will be preferred for appointment to Board level posts. If internal candidates are not available, preference will be given to candidates working in other public sector enterprises either in the same area of business or in other areas. Mobility of managerial personnel among public sector enterprises, within the same sector or group, failing which mobility within the public sector, as a whole, will be encouraged subject to certain limitations. In special cases, recruitment may be made from the organised services under the Central Govt. Such cases would be where, because of special circumstances, it is necessary to place a member of an organised service in a public sector enterprise or where because of the nature of the enterprise, or its poor health, it would be difficult to attract good professional managers on a tenure basis.

Payments made by Bofors in Howitzer gun deal

1181. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of 21st May, 1988 to the effect that after conclusion of the Indian deal for Howitzer guns, Bofors had to pay SEK 50 million to an obscure foundation there, because the Indian order was made possible by Swedish Government's 'export credit guarantees' and thus the SEK 50 million donation was made possible by the Indian order;

(b) whether while negotiating for the 'export credit guarantees' Swedish Government had told India that it would ask Bofors, for such a donation; if so, what was India's response; and

(c) whether India has protested and demanded the money back?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The Government has seen the Press report captioned "Bofors paid 10 Cr to SDP" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of 21st May, 1988. It contains no information about Bofors paying SEK 50 million to a Swedish foundation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Central Administrative Tribunal

1182. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 14 benches of the Central Administrative Tribunal were set up on November 1, 1985 to speed up disposal of Central Government employees' service disputes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the speed has slowed down and already more than 21000 cases have accumulated before the Tribunal benches, delaying justice;